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For this refusal, Lord Dorchester, pettily enough, expelled him from Canada. The 18th Brumaire restored Liancourt to France. Of his sequestrated estates, a portion, including his château, had been saved from alienation by connivance of the authorities of Oise, where the duke was popular. The duchess in 1792 had obtained a divorce on the ground of her husband's emigration. By this device, not uncommon at the time, she preserved her own property. She remained in France but established herself on the frontier in a French villa from which she could adjourn at any moment to a Swiss garden. She survived the duke three years. After his repatriation she was associated with him from time to time in beneficence. They never remarried.

Under the Empire Liancourt was active in a number of unsalaried offices which he retained under the Restoration until the reaction of the early twenties. On July 15, 1823, Corbière notified him that he was retired from the office of inspector-general of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers, from the council-general for prisons, the council-general for manufactures, the council for agriculture, the council-general for the Paris hospitals, and the council-general for the department of Oise. In his reply on the sixteenth, Liancourt twitted the minister with forgetting in this formidable list the duke's presidency of the committee on vaccination. On the same day this committee was abolished. The government pressed its vengeance to the grave. At the duke's funeral in Paris, the pupils at Châlons wished to carry their dead benefactor. The police, pleading express orders, commanded them to place the body on the hearse. In the scuffle which followed, the coffin fell to the pavement and broke, and the duke's body was soiled in the gutter. The affair was discussed in the Chambers, and the king, against the wish of Corbière, expressed to the family his regret for the occurrence.

H. M. BOWMAN.

Napoleon the First: a Biography. By AUGUST FOURNIER. Translated by MARGARET BACON CORWIN and ARTHUR DART BISSELL. Edited by EDWARD GAYLORD BOURNE, Professor of History in Yale University. (New York: Henry Holt and Company. 1903. Pp. xviii, 836.)

THE hackneyed proverb that the most valuable things often come in small packages is once again exemplified by the history of the great Corsican written by Dr. Fournier, a member of the Austrian Chamber of Deputies and professor in the University of Prague, which was originally published in German in three volumes 1886-1889, and, after being translated into French by E. Jaeglé in 1892, now appears in English as a result of the joint labors of Professor Bourne, Mrs. Corwin, and Mr. Bissell, assisted by an earlier unpublished translation made by Mr. F. H. Schwan.

Almost every student who has become thoroughly conversant with the unique era of nineteen years (1796-1815) which has been roughly

styled the Napoleonic, had been obliged to obtain his knowledge by wading laboriously through the countless works which treat of that period in nearly all its varied aspects, and has often been at a loss for an answer when confronted by the question, "What is the best short history of Napoleon for the general reader?" His mind at once recurs to the endless pages contained in the voluminous works of recognized authorities like Sloane, Thibaudeau, Bignon, and Thiers; Scott, Abbott, and Hazlitt he rejects as untrustworthy, Lanfrey as too envenomed, and Alison as not wholly accurate, while both Fyffe and Lavissee and Rambaud embrace all Europe. Of the two-volume histories unquestionably the best is Rose, although due allowance must be made for a slightly biased point of view of certain episodes, but this work comprises not less than a thousand pages. Of the single-volume histories Ropes is merely a series of interesting lectures incorporated into book form; Seeley is so rabidly hostile as to destroy all sense of perspective and hence all merit; while William O'Connor Morris, although distinctly good, is by no means so profound as many of the others.

The solution of this perplexing question is fortunately to be found in Fournier's *Napoleon*, which not only condenses within its two covers the essence of the knowledge given by the best authorities, but treats it with a directness, impartiality, and breadth of view which cannot fail to demonstrate that its author possesses, as the result of the most profound research and painstaking consideration of all the dominant influences, a grasp of this difficult subject unsurpassed by any of the general historians of this many-sided colossus. Although unquestionably "Drudgery is the gray angel of success" and although Fournier's work is manifestly the outcome of many years of unremitting labor and most careful thought, it is far from being the product of a plodder; on the contrary, the vigorous mentality of the writer is evident on every page, and sparks of light fly at every blow of his intellectual hammer as he forges with master hand his chain of historical evidence, every intricate link of which stands out clear and distinct. The reader's interest never flags, for the reason that the style is always vivid and frequently dramatic, and that each link is shown in its true proportions and relationship to all the others. Another feature of this work is the admirable classified bibliography, which is of inestimable value as a guide for the reader of the Napoleonic era or for the librarian who has constant use for a comprehensive manual. The French edition, which contained many works not mentioned in the German original, was used as the basis for the English translation; and Professor Bourne has added a large number of recently published books, although some notable articles and monographs have escaped his attention and some unimportant errors in spelling have been overlooked. The work of the translators has been admirably done, but more careful proof-reading would have eliminated a few typographical errors.

The greatest characteristic of Fournier's history, and the one which perhaps distinguishes it from all the others, is the irrefutable logic with which he demonstrates that the principal motives and actions of Napoleon

were dictated by a fixed policy, from which he never swerved. If authorities most competent to give testimony regarding the events in which they participated are entitled to any weight, then Fournier is not wanting in convincing argument; and his contention reminds one most forcibly of the famous diatribe against Napoleon by Châteaubriand, who declared: "His part, invented by himself, was terribly unique. Never was there so ambitious, so restless a spirit; never so daring, so fortunate a soldier. His aim was universal dominion, and he gazed at it steadfastly with the eye of the eagle and the appetite of the vulture."

Napoleon has often been termed "the child of the Revolution", and the appellation is undoubtedly justified, since the First Consul himself retorted to Josephine, when she pleaded for leniency toward the Duc d'Enghien, "I am the man of the State, I am the French Revolution, and I shall uphold it" (p. 273). The Convention and the Directory bequeathed to their successors certain policies which assisted materially to mold the course of France for many years after those governments had passed out of existence. The "theory of the liberation of nations" was soon metamorphosed into implying facilitation of conquest; and peace, as Mallet du Pan wrote in 1795, "must be understood to mean submission" (p. 190). The extension of the boundaries of France was stoutly opposed by England, against which opposition retaliatory measures were promptly directed, so that there was formulated "as early as the summer of 1796, a clearly defined intention not only to land an army in the British Islands, but also to annihilate that country by closing to her commerce all the ports of all Europe" (p. 190). The Directory busied itself also with "rousing Persia to rebellion, working up Constantinople, and peopling Hindostan with its emissaries" (p. 191), so as to attack England through her richest possession. The idea of secularizing the German ecclesiastical principalities originated with the Girondists, and in 1795 the celebrated Abbé Sieyès suggested a plan for indemnifying and aggrandizing the secular principalities at the expense of the ecclesiastical, which was carried out with slight modifications during the Consulate (1803). A league of Rhenish princes under French protection, to act as "buffer states", was also broached during 1798, and eight years later bore fruition in the establishment of the Confederation of the Rhine under the suzerainty of Napoleon. In a like manner arose the policy of crowding Austria and Prussia, the most dominant states of the continent, as far as possible toward the east, for the obvious reason, as Sieyès reported from Berlin in 1798, that the German coast bordering on the North Sea was "for France the most important portion of the earth's surface in view of the fact that by means of it the Directory may at its will close to English commerce all the markets and all the ports of the Continent from Gibraltar as far as Holstein or even to the North Cape" (p. 191).

These far-reaching schemes, which embraced substantially the entire continent, were formulated without semblance of method or system, but they awakened a dormant movement which contained germs that took deep

root in the new life of France. The Convention was supplanted by the Directory; this in turn fell before the "man of destiny", who possessed not only the perspicacity and insight to understand the vast latent possibilities of these policies, but also the power to carry them into execution, especially since they conformed to his own desire for universal dominion. With these facts always in view, the motives and actions of the great emperor are perfectly clear and logical, for once in control of the requisite power "Napoleon followed, it is true, the course of development which France was undergoing, but always with the stamp of his own individuality and according to his own judgment" (p. 211).

There is a German proverb to the effect that God sees to it that the tree does not grow up to the heavens, and Napoleon is a notable example. Knowing that he used France as a ladder to climb to heights which in civilized ages it is not intended for man to attain, we are minded to ask, "By what means did he enslave France to the extent that she willingly left the bones of her sons to bleach from the sands of Syria to the snows of Russia in order to gratify his insatiable ambition?" There are two answers; the first is given by Châteaubriand:

"The weight of the chains which he imposed upon France was forgotten in their splendor; it was glorious to follow him, even as a conscript. The arts became servile in his praise, and Genius divided with him her immortal honors. For it is the mind alone which can triumph over Time."

The second answer is that of Talleyrand to Mme. de Rémusat when she complained of Napoleon's evil qualities:

"Child that you are, why is it that you are always putting your heart in all that you do? Trust me, do not compromise it by feeling any attachment for that man, but be assured that, with all his faults, he is still very necessary to France, which he knows how to uphold and to this object each of us ought to contribute all in our power" (p. 406).

FREDERIC L. HUIDEKOPER.

Personal Reminiscences of the First Duke of Wellington. By the late GEORGE ROBERT GLEIG, M.A. Edited by his daughter, MARY E. GLEIG. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1904. Pp. x, 409.)

GLEIG's intimacy with Wellington began in 1829 and was continued until 1852. His relations with the duke were closest from 1829 to 1834, and most intimate in 1831 and 1832, when Gleig was much in counsel with the duke as to the means by which the Grey administration could be overthrown and the Reform Bill wrecked. His reminiscences of the duke as a soldier form a small and immaterial part of the present volume, which is almost wholly concerned with the duke's career in politics and with his place in society. Gleig was an admirer of the duke, but was much more restrained and discriminating in his admiration than Croker. He was a Tory of the most pronounced Bourbon type; and he was a Bourbon to the last. While his political convictions were as intense as